



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202-1129  
Phone 800-227-8917  
[www.epa.gov/region8](http://www.epa.gov/region8)

April 20, 2015

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Mr. Todd Hennis  
Salem Minerals, Inc.  
15100 Foothills Rd.  
Golden, CO 80401

Re: Access to property for water quality sampling

Dear Mr. Todd Hennis:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency thanks you for your cooperation in providing us access to your property in 2014 to conduct water quality sampling in the Animas River watershed. We appreciate your willingness to allowing us access to your property to conduct this important sampling.

The EPA in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Geological Survey, the State of Colorado and the Animas River Stakeholder Group is continuing its sampling program of water quality in the Animas River in 2015. Our sampling program will extend from just below Silverton, Colorado to the headwaters of the Animas River and its tributaries. We request permission to access your property to continue our sampling program.

The sampling would occur at a number of locations on your property in the Cement Creek drainage above Silverton, Colorado. I have included a list of the sampling locations and the mine claim names associated with these locations that appear to be owned by you or Salem Minerals, Inc. or San Juan Corporation based on records in the San Juan County Assessor's Office.

Our sampling programs will consist of collecting water quality samples, sediment and aquatic organism samples at this location on the river adjacent to your property and taking flow measurements. Since our investigations into the sources and causes of the heavy metals in the river may involve several years of work, we request that permission for access extends for a period of 5 years from the date of signature on the Consent for Access.

Enclosed is an access agreement that, with your signature, gives the EPA and the other governmental agencies access to your property for these field activities. We request that you fill in your name as the owner and your phone number on the front of the form, sign and date the back of the form, and return it via US mail, email or fax by May 1, 2015.

Your assistance in providing us access for this purpose will aid in the understanding and determination of the contamination sources impacting the water quality in the Animas River between Silverton and Durango, Colorado. If you have any questions regarding our request for access or the sampling activities that would take place, please feel free to contact me at 303-312-6861 or 720-951-0795 (cell),



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or email [schmittdiel.paula@epa.gov](mailto:schmittdiel.paula@epa.gov). You may also contact Elizabeth Fagen at 303-312-6095 or email [fagen.elizabeth@epa.gov](mailto:fagen.elizabeth@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paula Schmittiel", written in a cursive style.

Paula Schmittiel  
Project Manager  
Superfund Remedial Program

Enclosures

- 1) Consent for Access
- 2) List of Properties/Mine Claims